Second Member of Council.—

I think there is.

Mr. T. Mariappa.—

Can you appoint a committee to investigate into the causes of delay now occurring?

Dewan.—

Delays should not occur. If instances of delays are brought to notice, the necessary enquiries will be made.

Mr. T. Mariappa.—

Cannot endorsements be sent every month to the petitioners explaining the cause of delay in the disposal? Otherwise, the papers may get lost by efflux of time.

Dewan.—

Government have already issued instructions for minimising delays. The receipt of every petition should be acknowledged by the officer concerned. Instructions will be issued to enforce this rule.

MR. S. N. SEETHARAMA RAO (Special Interest).—

Q.—4. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) What are the conditions on which the present Agent of the Mysore State Railways was taken to the Mysore Railway Service?

(*b*) What was his rank, status and pay before he joined the Mysore Service?

(*c*) What are his special qualifications for his being made the Agent of the Mysore Railways on his present high salary?

(*d*) Whether, when compared with the Madras and Southern Mahratta, South Indian and other Railways, the appointment of two District Traffic Superintendents for 400 miles of Railway is justifiable?

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—4. (*a*) The conditions have varied from time to time. The terms of his current contract are:—

Salary for the combined charges of Traffic Manager, Agent and Secretary to Government, Railway Department	...	...	Rs. 1,900

Leave and provident fund contributions	... According to rules.
Period	... Two years from April 1930.

(*b*) District Officer, Traffic Department, in 1922 on Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,500.

(*c*) He is an officer of considerable experience in Traffic Department of Indian Railways and in Traffic, Agency and Secretariat of Mysore Railways.

He is a Member of the Institute of Transport, London.

(*d*) Yes.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. S. N. Seetharama Rao.—

Question (*a*) has not been answered. I wanted to know the terms of his appointment when he was first taken to the Mysore Railways.

Dewan.—

The terms have changed 3 or 4 times and what you wanted was not clear.

Mr. S. N. Seetharama Rao.—

At least, may I know the initial and the last terms on which his services have been engaged?

Dewan.—

The last is given in the answer and the first will be communicated to you, if necessary.

Mr. S. N. Seetharama Rao.—

With reference to answer to (*d*), in the Madras Presidency there are two big Railway companies, *viz*., the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway and the South Indian Railway; and in these Railways there is a District Traffic Superintendent for about 750 miles. Whereas our Railway is only 400 miles in length including the tram lines; and is there need for two Traffic Superintendents?

Chief Secretary to Government.—

Government consider it necessary.

Mr. B. L. Byanna.—

When there is an all-round retrenchment everywhere, why should the salary of the Traffic Manager have been increased by Rs. 200 recently?

Chief Secretary to Government.—

No increase of pay was given recently.

Mr. N. G. Sanjeeviah.—

After this officer came here, has he not shown much improvement in the traffic department and effected savings?

Dewan.—

Government are satisfied with his work.

Mr. K. T. Satyanarayana Setty.—

With reference to (*a*), may I know on what pay he was started in the Mysore Railways?

Dewan.—

That information will be furnished if necessary.

Mr. K. T. Satyanarayana Setty.—

Why should you give him more pay compared with that of the Heads of other departments?

Dewan.—

He is a Government of India Officer, and we have to give him the pay necessary for employing him in our service.

Mr. K. T. Satyanarayana Setty.—

Has he been retained here out of necessity?

Dewan.—

Yes.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—

Is it not desirable to give adequate pay to a technical officer if he is deserving?

Dewan.—

Yes.

Khan Bahadur Mahomed Abbas Khan.—

Is it not a fact that his predecessor, Mr. Dove Wilson, was being paid Rs. 3,000 a month?

Chief Secretary to Government.—

Yes.

Khan Bahadur Mahomed Abbas Khan.—

And has there not been a savings of Rs. 1,100 now?

Chief Secretary to Government.—

Yes.

Khan Bahadur Mahomed Abbas Khan.—

So, is it not desirable to continue the services of this officer?

Dewan.—

That question has been answered already.

At this stage (4-35 P.M.), the Assembly rose for the day to meet again at 12 NOON the next day.